

Introduced by Senator Escutia

February 22, 2005

An act relating to child care, *and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 640, as amended, Escutia. Child care: *pupils with disabilities.*

Existing law, the Child Care and Development Services Act, provides for a system of child care and development services for children, including children with exceptional needs, by public and private child care providers.

~~This bill would declare that it is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate the sum of \$5,000,000 to the State Department of Education for purposes of funding, in the 2005-06 fiscal year, certain activities related to child care providers with respect to serving children with exceptional needs.~~

This bill would appropriate \$5,000,000 from one-time only federal quality carry-over funds within the State Department of Education for purposes of funding, beginning in the 2005-06 fiscal year, state funded child care resource and referral programs for certain activities related to child care and development services with respect to serving children with disabilities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: ~~no~~-yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate~~
- 2 ~~the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) from the General~~
- 3 ~~Fund to the State Department of Education for the purposes of~~

~~funding, in the 2005-06 fiscal year, training, technical assistance, equipment, and instructional materials for child care providers, and the development of child care providers, all with respect to serving children with exceptional needs.~~

SECTION 1. (a) *The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:*

(1) A compelling body of research demonstrates that early identification and intervention for young children with disabilities results in a decrease in the need for special education placements upon arrival in the public school system.

(2) A large number of children receive child care through licensed family day care, child care centers, and in license-exempt care.

(3) Training and technical assistance enhances the ability of a child care provider to identify and accommodate the needs of young children with disabilities.

(4) Child care resource and referral programs are uniquely suited to provide training and technical assistance to assist child care providers increase their ability to serve children with disabilities.

(5) As the single state funded entity that serves all parents regardless of income, child care resource and referral programs are uniquely suited to assist the families of children with exceptional needs become aware of their rights to access child care services and to connect families with the services available in their community.

(b) It is therefore the intent of the Legislature that children with disabilities be fully included in child care programs.

SEC. 2. *The sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) is hereby appropriated from one-time only federal quality carry-over funds within the State Department of Education for the purposes of funding, beginning in the 2005-06 fiscal year, state funded child care resource and referral programs, for the following activities related to child care and development services:*

(a) For the purposes of increasing the capacity of state subsidized and nonstate subsidized child care providers to serve children with disabilities in child care settings that meet their developmental needs, consistent with the intent of the Child Care and Development Services Act pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 8200) of Part 6 of the Education

1 *Code. A child care resource and referral agency may expend*
2 *funds granted to it pursuant to this subdivision for any of the*
3 *following:*

4 *(1) To contract for various purposes that may include, but are*
5 *not limited to, providing training and technical assistance to*
6 *child care and development providers.*

7 *(2) To conduct awareness and outreach to child care and*
8 *development providers to increase their awareness of available*
9 *services and to parents of children with disabilities to increase*
10 *their awareness of their rights to accessible child care and to*
11 *increase their awareness of available services, provided that the*
12 *activities contracted for further the purposes of this subdivision.*

13 *(b) The State Department of Education shall develop an*
14 *allocation plan to distribute funds appropriated pursuant to this*
15 *section. The allocation plan shall be developed using the ratio of*
16 *the number of children ages birth to 12 years, inclusive, within*
17 *each county to the total number of children in the state who are*
18 *birth to 12 years of age. The county allocation shall be developed*
19 *by applying the county ratio to the five million dollars*
20 *(\$5,000,000) after a minimum allocation of three thousand*
21 *dollars (\$3,000) is set aside for the smallest counties.*

22 *(c) State funded child care resource and referral programs*
23 *interested in applying for the available funds shall submit a*
24 *proposal to the State Department of Education for the use of the*
25 *funds, including a plan for the percentage of funds to be used for*
26 *each of the purposes set forth in subdivision (a).*